

COMPARISON OF AFFORDABILITY SURCHARGE PROPOSALS

Party	Funding	Administration	Eligibility and Design	Comments
Department of Public Service	Flat-fee structure: \$1.00 residential \$3.00 commercial \$100.00 industrial	Not offered.	-125% FPL - tiered discounts for both income and consumption levels, targeting deeper discounts to lower income, lower consumption -link to EEU - partial arrearage forgiveness, and/or potential matching program.	
Central Vermont Public Service	-general fund <i>or</i> -all energy-based gross-receipts tax increase <i>or</i> -percentage surcharge on electric revenues	-centralized administration and pooling of funds -line item on bill reflecting charge -AHS provides application and certification service -protocols for electronic transfer of data to utilities	-Capped, fixed credits by tier (\$10, \$20, \$30 based on household's tier assignment) -Tiered Percentage Discount: i.e. lowest income pay rates at %50 of normal residential rate -low cost initial service block: low-cost sub-rate classes for initial consumption level -no arrears forgiveness	

AARP	-non-bypassable charge on monthly bills to all classes of customers	-LIHEAP structures and procedures -Board or designee responsible for fiscal management -CAAs perform intake/outreach -utilities collect surcharge, assign customers to discount tier and alter billing -utilities report to PSB -annual recertification of program participants -protocols for electronic transfer of data to utilities	-one time amnesty for arrearages -Auto enroll all LIHEAP -150% of FPL eligible -tier structure lowering burden to 5% of household income -promote efficiency through monthly discount caps by consumption level or fixed bill credits -applicants agree to apply for efficiency services	
Vermont Electric Cooperative	-Raise income tax 1/3 of 1% <i>or</i> -\$0.50 surcharge per customer would raise \$2 million.	Financial assistance agency coordinating with the electric utility.	-Eligibility and affordability determined by actual disconnections -address arrearages with “rounding up” program	
LCRCC/GBIC	-general fund and Efficiency Vermont	AHS responsible for administration and means testing. At notice of disconnect, individual receives application for program	150-125% of FPL, direct referral to augmented Efficiency Vermont services <125% subsidy provided for basic needs consumption level.	